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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/724,078	12/01/2003	Koji Ishii	20665-00025-US1	1726

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EXAMINER

STRIMBU, GREGORY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3634

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of group I in the reply filed on November 11, 2004 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). Accordingly, claims 4 and 5 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on November 11, 2004.

Drawings

Figures 9-10 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.121(d)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to because each figure does not include a proper label. For example, the second page of drawings includes three views of the invention, however, only one is properly labeled as figure 2A and the other two are improperly labeled as B and C. Therefore, it is suggested that the applicant change the label for

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figure B to --Fig. 2B-- and change the label for figure C to --Fig. 2C-- in figure 2 and throughout the drawings, where appropriate, to avoid confusion. Additionally, the section lines in the drawings should be labeled by the figure number which shows the cross sectional view. For example, the section line labeled A-A in figure 1 should be changed to --2A-2A-- to indicate that figure 2A shows the view taken from the section line. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Recitations such as "housed inside said panel" on lines 7-8 of claim 2 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear how a glass plate can be housed inside a panel. Recitations such as "where" on line 12 render the claims indefinite because they are grammatically awkward and confusing. Recitations such as "drum having ends fixed to said carrier plate" on lines 20-21 of claim 2 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear what the applicant is attempting to set forth. Does the drum or do the cables have the ends? Recitations such as "said wire driving drum" on line 23 of claim 2 render the claims indefinite because they lack antecedent basis. Recitations such as "centrally positioning the penetrating wires said flared guide portions" on lines 31-32 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear what the applicant is attempting to set forth. Is the applicant attempting to set forth a method step regarding how the wires are inserted into the guide portions or is the applicant attempting to set forth an assembled relationship between the guide portions and the wires?

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

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The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record, absent applicant's own disclosure, fails to teach the entire combination of elements set forth in the claimed invention. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to teach the through holes comprising flared guide portions opposite the stopper members and formed at edges of the through holes, the flared guide portions centrally positioning the wires in the through holes, and the flared guide portions have inner curved surfaces for guiding the wires and preventing cutting of the wires as the carrier plate moves upward. See lines 28-33 for similar less, precise language.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Strimbu whose telephone number is 571-272-6836. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on 571-272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory J. Strimbu", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gregory J. Strimbu
Primary Examiner
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January 23, 2006